

Application No. 10/812,489  
Amendment dated March 12, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of October 18, 2007

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 3. This sheet, which includes FIG. 3, replaces the original sheet including FIG. 3. In FIG. 3, reference numerals 39 (base), 41 (sidewall), 43 (first end), 45 (second end), 47 (upper surface), and 49 (lower end) have been added to more clearly provide support for the amendments to claim 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 7, 8, 14, 16, 17, and 24-35 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 1, 3-5, 9, 12, 13, and 18-23 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-6, 9-13, 15, and 18-23 are presently pending, with claims 1 and 18 being in independent form.

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner and his supervisor for their time and attention courteously extended to Applicant (Joseph Sproules) and his legal representative (Kameron Kelly) during the telephone interview conducted on November 28, 2007. During the telephone interview, the independent claims of the present Application and the teachings of U.S. Patent No. 6,484,469 to Drake (hereinafter Drake) were discussed. Further, possible amendments to clearly distinguish the independent claims over Drake were discussed.

Applicant would also like to thank the Examiner for providing proposed amendments to claim 1 by email on January 15, 2008, and for reviewing and approving Applicant's minor modifications to the proposed amendments by email on February 25, 2008.

As mentioned above, claims 1-6, 9-13, 15, and 18-23 are currently pending in this application, with claims 1 and 18 being the only independent claims. Independent claim 1 has been amended in a manner suggested by the Examiner. In an email dated February 25, 2008, the Examiner indicated that claim 1, as currently amended, would be allowable. In that same email, the Examiner suggested that Applicant amend the Specification and Drawings to reflect the new claim language. Applicant has amended the Specification and Drawings (FIG. 3, in particular) to accommodate the Examiner's request. A replacement drawing sheet including the amended FIG. 3 is filed herewith.

In the Office Action of October 18, 2008, the Examiner indicated that claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 18 by rewriting it in independent form to include the limitations of base claim 16 and intervening claim 17.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 18 should now be in condition for allowance. Additionally, dependent claims 2-6, 9-13, and 15, which depend from independent claim 1, and dependent claims 19-23, which depend from independent claim 18, all recite additional patentable features and should also be in condition for allowance because they depend from patentable independent claims.

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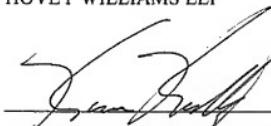
Applicant submits that the present application should now be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (800) 445-3460.

A 2-month Petition for Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment. Please deduct from Deposit Account 19-0522 the amount of \$230.00 for the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

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